



## Eighth LANSCE User Group Meeting a Great Success

The eighth biennial LANSCE User Group Meeting—LUG8—held at the Santa Fe Hilton from June 10-12, 2007, was a rousing success. There was much to celebrate: 2005 and 2006 were the most successful years in the LANSCE user program history, LANL recently received DOE approval for critical decision zero (CD-0) for the LANSCE Refurbishment Project (LANSCE-R), and LANSCE was provided with programmatic funding to proceed with efforts necessary to receive LANSCE-R CD-1 approval by September 2008.

109 users registered for the meeting. Of these users 44 were from institutions outside of the Laboratory. Monday, the first day of the meeting, had a number of overview presentations. PADSTE emphasized the importance of LANSCE to the scientific future of the Laboratory. Another presentation pointed out the role LANSCE plays in materials research at LANL. There were also presentations about LANSCE-R, the proposed Los Alamos Particle Accelerator Research Complex (L-PARC), and the current status of the Spallation Neutron Source at ORNL. These were followed by presentations of science highlights representing a cross-section of research at LANSCE in neutron scattering and nuclear science.



## 21st Rosen Prize

Brad Bennett  
receiving the 21st  
Rosen Prize from  
Louis Rosen himself



In the middle of the afternoon on Monday during the User Group business meeting, Louis Rosen presented the 21st Rosen Prize to Brad Bennett from the University of Tennessee. Brad was recognized for his work on the Protein Crystallography Station at the Lujan Center. For the first time an honorable mention was bestowed on another researcher, Shannon McDaniel. Shannon was a graduate student at the University of Washington at the time she conducted her research at the Lujan Center. Shannon has since joined the Laboratory in MST Division.

Shannon McDaniel  
receiving the first  
Honorable Mention  
Rosen Prize



To assure that the user community is engaged in planning the future of LANSCE, the remainder of the business meeting was devoted to short presentations and discussion about the research thrusts being proposed for the L-PARC. Also, Tonya Kuhl, the chair of the LANSCE User Group Executive Committee, gave an excellent presentation about how the user community could help in providing advocacy for LANSCE and other user facilities to Congress and funding agencies. Tonya has been personally very active in serving as an advocate for increased support of science and the nation's user facilities.

The day was culminated by an outstanding set of poster presentations, ten of which were hosted by students who had done research at LANSCE. As is customary, prizes were awarded for the best posters. First place and \$250 went to Hillary Smith who works with Jarek Majewski at the Lujan Center. Second place and \$100 was awarded to Leslie Sasa whose mentor is Rex Hjelm, also of the Lujan Center.

Tuesday was “science day” at LUG8. In two parallel technical sessions there were nine invited talks and 27 contributed papers. The science presented in these talks was truly outstanding and covered work from all of the LANSCE user facilities—the Lujan Center, the Weapons Neutron Research Facility, Proton Radiography, and Ultra-cold Neutrons. Considering that these 36 presentations represent only a fraction of the total research conducted at LANSCE during 2005 and 2006, we can take great pride in the broad scientific impact that research from LANSCE makes.



Following the technical sessions, the closing reception and banquet gave LUG8 participants the opportunity to continue their scientific discussions and to socialize. The after-dinner speaker was Alan Perelson of the Theoretical Biology Group at LANL. Alan’s presentation, “HIV/AIDS: How Mathematics Has Saved Lives,” summarized more than a decade’s worth of research by Alan and his collaborators on the modeling of the development of HIV infection in the human body. This seminal research was the foundation for developing the effective drug therapies that have prolonged the lives of many people infected with HIV. We thank Alan for his excellent talk that helped to make LUG8 a stimulating and thought-provoking meeting.

With many positive events on the horizon for LANSCE, we expect LUG9 to be held in 2009 to be another great gathering.

